Amendments to the Claims

Please cancel Claims 2 and 4 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please amend 1, 3, 7 and 8 to read as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An inkjet printing apparatus, having a carriage incorporating an inkjet printhead where nozzles for discharging ink are arranged in a predetermined direction, for performing printing by scanning the carriage with respect to a printing medium in a direction orthogonal to the predetermined direction, comprising:

first and second conveyance means, arranged at an upstream side and a downstream side, respectively, with respect to a printing-medium conveyance direction of an area of the printing medium scanned by the printhead, for conveying the printing medium while holding the printing medium; and

nozzle setting means for, when the printing medium is held only by ~~one of said first and~~ said second conveyance means, setting ~~a nozzle~~ nozzles to be used for printing ~~from nozzles for which a distance between a discharge surface of each nozzle and a printing surface of the printing medium falls within a predetermined range,~~ by selecting from the nozzles of the printhead arranged at the downstream side in the printing-medium conveyance direction, in accordance with a position of the printing medium in the printing-medium conveyance direction.

wherein said nozzle setting means, when printing a rear side of the printing medium, changes the nozzles to be used for printing at each scan of the printhead.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Currently Amended) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim ~~2~~ 1, wherein during the plural times of scanning, nozzles to be used for printing are changed, instead of conveying the printing medium by at least one of said first and second conveyance means.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously Presented) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle setting means makes a setting to use all nozzles when the printing medium is held by both said first and second conveyance means.

6. (Previously Presented) The inkjet printing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said nozzle setting means further comprises an association table associating a nozzle to be used and a distance with respect to the printing-medium conveyance direction for each type of printing medium.

7. (Currently Amended) A control method of an inkjet printing apparatus, having a carriage incorporating an inkjet printhead where nozzles for discharging ink are arranged in a predetermined direction, for performing printing by scanning the carriage with respect to a printing medium in a direction orthogonal to the predetermined direction, the apparatus having first and second conveyance means that are arranged at an upstream side and a downstream side, respectively, with respect to a printing-medium conveyance direction of an area of the printing medium scanned by the printhead, comprising:

a determining step of determining whether or not the printing medium is held only by ~~one of~~ the ~~first and~~ second conveyance means based on a position of the printing medium in the printing-medium conveyance direction; and

a nozzle setting step of, when said determining step determines that the printing medium is held only by ~~one of~~ the ~~first and~~ second conveyance means, setting ~~a nozzle~~ nozzles to be used for printing ~~from nozzles for which a distance between a discharge surface of each nozzle and a printing surface of the printing medium falls within a predetermined range~~ by selecting from the nozzles of the printhead arranged at the downstream side in the printing-medium conveyance direction, in accordance with a position of the printing medium in the printing-medium conveyance direction,

wherein said nozzle setting step, when printing a rear side of the printing medium, changes the nozzles to be used for printing at each scan of the printhead.

8. (Currently Amended) An inkjet printing apparatus, having a carriage incorporating an inkjet printhead where nozzles for discharging ink are arranged in a predetermined direction, for performing printing by scanning the carriage with respect to a printing medium in a direction orthogonal to the predetermined direction, comprising:

first and second conveyance means, arranged at an upstream side and a downstream side, respectively, with respect to a printing-medium conveyance direction of an area of the printing medium scanned by the printhead, for conveying the printing medium while holding the printing medium; and

selecting means for, when the printing medium is held only by ~~one of said first and~~ said second conveyance means, selecting ~~a nozzle~~ nozzles to be used for printing ~~from nozzles for which a distance between a discharge surface of each nozzle and a printing surface of the printing medium falls within a predetermined range,~~ from the nozzles of the printhead arranged at the downstream side in the printing-medium conveyance direction, in accordance with a position of the printing medium in the printing-medium conveyance direction,

wherein said nozzle selecting means, when printing a rear side of the printing medium, changes selection of the nozzles to be used for printing at each scan of the printhead.